

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the claims herein to address the shortcomings of the prior art. More specifically, the amendments presented herein articulate the centralized aspect of the queue of the storage area network. Applicant's invention pertains to a centralized queue in a storage area network. The prior art of *Black*, *Tang*, and *AAPA* fails to teach a storage area network (SAN) with a centralized queue, as reflected in the amended claims submitted herewith. The centralized queue of Applicant provides control and management of messages at the network level and eliminates issues associated with server failure and loss of any messages stored thereon at the time of failure.

Support for the amendments submitted herewith is found in paragraphs 0018, 0021, 0038, and 0039, of Applicant's publication. No new matter has been added to the application with the amendments to the claims submitted herewith.

In view of the forgoing amendment to the claims, it is submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Applicant is not conceding in this application that those claims in their prior forms are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the application. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications. Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that she be contacted at the number indicated below.

For the reasons outlined above, an allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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